



MY BODY | MY PET | MY ENVIRONMENT

Frequently Asked Questions Canine Genetic Health Test:

Why test?

Bringing a new puppy into the family is a financial and emotional investment. Whether you are a professional dog breeder or simply a careful buyer, a [Canine Genetic Health Certificate™](#) can help you understand the potential genetic threats to your dog's health. If you decide to breed, this information will help you select the proper mate to produce the healthiest puppies thereby increasing the value of your breeding program.

Who should test?

If you are a breeder, prospective dog owner or someone looking for a highly trained dog for specific service work, hunting or the show ring, understanding your dog's genetic health will help you make better decisions concerning your dog. A [Canine Genetic Health Certificate™](#) gives you the confidence needed to invest in, breed, and train your dog.

Why this test?

Canine HealthCheck offers the largest selection of tests for inherited diseases. Our breed-specific panels offer a comprehensive service at a discounted rate, or choose only the tests you want. Our tests are economical and efficient, while using the highest medical standards in the industry. While your dog's sample is in the lab, you can track your order online and receive updates and alerts as the sample is processed.

Many of the words you use are medical terms. Is there a way I can look up these terms?

Yes, the test will provide a glossary of terms for you. When you find a medical term in our disease summaries, you can hover your mouse over the word and read the definition, or you can click on the word and it will take you to our [glossary](#).

How can I ensure the privacy of my dog's information?

Your medical information is protected by HIPAA, an act of Congress that provides rules to ensure the security and confidentiality of your health information. Though there is no equivalent for dogs, Paw Print Genetics adheres to many of the same standards. After accurate and reliable genetic results, privacy should be the number-one concern of any laboratory. At Paw Print Genetics, we take your personal information very seriously and this includes the genetic results of your dogs. We have a strict internal privacy policy that instructs our employees on how personal information collected on our website or obtained through testing of your dogs is handled. This information belongs to the person who ordered and paid for the test. The dog's laboratory results can only be communicated to the person who ordered the test. In most cases it is the owner or breeder. In other cases, it may be a veterinarian. When a person calls our laboratory and wants to discuss a dog's result, we first verify that it is the individual that ordered the test. If it is not the individual that ordered the test, we require a medical release form to be signed by that original customer, releasing the information to the third party. It's that simple. We will not release your dog's information to a third party without your written consent. If you have any concerns about our Privacy Policy, please contact us.





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What do you test for?

The Canine HealthCheck tests for a large number of genetic mutations associated with diseases or traits in dogs. Through cutting edge technology, high quality, human grade laboratory standards, and decades of genetics experience, we are committed to providing services that will assist in protecting the emotional and financial investment that breeders and pet owners have in their dogs. We do this by testing for a variety of preventable, inherited diseases and genetic traits such as coat color. In addition, we assist veterinarians in the diagnosis of suspected heritable diseases seen in clinical practice.

When should I test?

It is always best to test a dog before it is bred so that you are aware of any potential genetic disorders that it could pass to its offspring. We suggest testing as an ongoing part of your breeding program, before you invest significant time and resources into training a dog for specialized work, before buying a puppy, or if your dog becomes symptomatic with a potentially inherited disease.

Can I test before my puppies are weaned?

Yes, puppies can be tested at any age. However, if they are not weaned yet, we ask that you separate them from their mother for at least one hour prior to collecting a sample using a cheek swab. This is to ensure we get the DNA of the puppy instead of the mom's DNA. During this time, they should have plenty of water and should not be allowed food to avoid contamination of samples. Paw Print Genetics accepts many types of samples. Tissue samples such as umbilical cords and dewclaws allow you to get results on your puppies earlier than when you use a cheek swab.

